

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2628

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016

e-Visa Facility

Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan;Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the e-Tourist visa facility provided by the Government to boost Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India;
- (b) whether the Government intends to extend the e-Tourist visa window to 180 days instead of the current 30 days;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is also considering to allow multiple entry on the said visa instead of the existing single-entry as well as to extend the maximum stay up to 90 days from the existing 30 days;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether the countries to which 'visa-on- arrival' facility has been extended have reciprocated the same to Indian tourists and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) e-Tourist visa is presently available of the nationals of 150 countries at 16 designated international airports in India. E-Tourist visa can be granted for a period at 30 days with single entry. Further, e-tourist Visa can be availed only twice in a calendar year. On e-tourist visa, foreign

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nationals are permitted recreation, sightseeing, casual visit to meet friends or relatives, attending a short term yoga programme, short duration medical treatment including treatment under Indian systems of medicine or casual business visit etc.

(b) to (e): The proposal is under consideration.

(f): E-Tourist visa and visa on arrival facilities have been introduced by the Government of India as a unilateral measure with the objective of promoting tourism in India. However, many foreign countries have extended e-visa and visa-on-arrival facilities to Indian nationals. Some countries have exempted Indian passport holders from the requirement of visa.
